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24th July, 1995

Harold Weisberg,
Route 12,
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USA

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

I apologise for writing to you "out of the blue".

I was just 12 years old on 22.11.63 and the assassination of John Kennedy made a lasting impression upon me. Here was a man I admired, the most powerful man in the world and yet I could not understand how his life could so easily be extinguished by a single, and so insignificant looking, individual with an outdated rifle. Some instinct told me that this just could not be so.

In England I was barely aware of the coverage of the Garrison and intelligence committee enquiries until 1978 when I read Anthony Summers book and from that point my profoundly felt sadness was heightened by the knowledge that the American people could let such crimes slip by without wanting to find the truth. Since then I have read all I can on the assassination and I have come to respect your views and judgement. Your filmed interviews also display a marvellously cynical yet slightly humorous view of the government's performance. An outlook with which I can empathise.

Throughout my study of the writings on the case it seems that:

- despite all the criticism of the Warren Commission "findings", the actual volumes reporting the hearings contain much valuable testimony with witness statements taken close (in time) to the event.
- that many so called researchers add little to our knowledge; others report to deceive; whilst a third community are interested only in enhancing their wealth.

The only significant commentators on whom I feel I can rely are:

- yourself
- Dick Russell for his brilliant book on Richard Case Nagell
- Warren Commission testimony
- Garrison's enquiry
- and some others

I also fee instinctively that Farewell America and the Torbitt document contain more good than bad.

The trouble is where do we go from here? Analysis piles upon analysis of minutiae which is both absorbing and fascinating and does build an understanding of the background to the events (the scenery I think Farewell America called it) but how do we break through to find the real sponsors? In which direction should we look?

I feel so frustrated that the truth may elude us and as time passes this frightening possibility grows ever more probable. With all your experience and knowledge can you offer any solace? Where would you look? What should I study?

Garrison's enquiry seemed to be on the right track but, I feel, got diverted down a "pure" CIA route and missed what may have been a wider conspiracy. His investigations also seem to contain much good witness testimony which is difficult to find from other sources in England (I have never managed to get Paris Flammonde's book and don't know whether the D.A. records in New Orleans are readily accessible or are fragmented. Perhaps they are available from another source?).

The Kennedy family's attitude to the crime seems rather puzzling, but I suppose it is a matter of self-preservation and perhaps they are waiting for the conspirators to die off before the next generation exposes what the family knows. Do you have any reason to believe or disbelieve the Hugh Huggins (AKA Jim Huggins or Hugh Powell) story reported in Bill Sloan's book, Breaking the Silence (p175-189)?

Do you believe that the Kennedy family were a prime source for the book Farewell America?

Do you attach significance to the top level meeting at Murchison's party on the eve of the assassination?

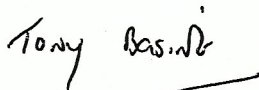
The cover up of the medical evidence is interesting from several points in my view:

- (i) it may indicate the source of the crime.
- (ii) it most likely was not pre-determined but developed ad hoc since the planners could not have known in advance the extent and nature of JFK's wounds or how public such information would become. The necessity for the cover up was, I think, because Oswald was supposed to escape the country. The fact that he was missing from the TSBD and had the background he did would have suited the "war party" well since it was a strong indication of a Castro/communist plot. If that plot involved a conspiracy - so what?

I do apologise for approaching you in this way but I could never have forgiven myself if I lost the opportunity of at least asking these questions.

If you can take the time to read and perhaps and answer my letter I shall be delighted and privileged. I will be pleased to refund any expenses.

Yours sincerely,



A.M. BASING

Dear Mr. Basinger

7/29/95

At 82, in impaired health and limited in what I'm able to do I try to respond to all letters because those who write me care. Some of what I say sometimes is not welcome because some people have fixed ideas that have no connection with reality. Which is also a fair commentary on most books ^{of} claimed to be about the ^{current} assassination. Any book that postulates a solution is a fraud. The opening chapter of my NEVER AGAIN! (Carroll & Graf) explains why and I've got it thoroughly documented. If you cannot get it there The Last Hurrah bookstore, 937 Memorial Ave., Williamsport, PA 17701 had it and mails overseas. They may also still have some of my Case Open if you do not have it and want it.

Farewell American and The Torbett Document are fiction. Farewell was by the French SDECE. And it is their false claim that the Kennedys supported the ⁱⁿ ^{how} Rather ^{how} Lamare made that phony claim to me. The Kennedy ^{have} has detached themselves from the investigations and I think will stay that way. Not because they know anything. I go into that in Post Mortem.

There is little possibility of the crime being solved. But that does not mean we should not strive to bring as much of the truth as possible to light and I continue trying to do that. It is important for the people to understand what happened and the books that deceive and mislead them are hurtful in this regard.

Garrison, I regret, was making it up as he went. I'm not proud of not perceiving that earlier than I did. What he did makes attractive fiction but he brought nothing new and factual to light. So if you can get Falmonde's book you'll still have nothing. Garrison saw to it that his records would not be available for the reason above.

There was no significance at all to the Murchison party.

I think that if we are to remain free the people must come to know all that they can be told truthfully. I use NEVER AGAIN! in the sense it should never happen again. It is, I think, a danger to the entire world when our government could consciously perpetrate a fraud for an explanation of an assassination, and it did that.

The reading public is at the mercy of those who write and make it up as they go no matter how serious and well-intended so many are. But in general any book that pretends to solve the crime is a phony and the multitudinous theories are all unproven and most of them are impossible by the official evidence.

I'm sorry to tell you what I believe you do not want to know but if I am to be honest with you I can do nothing else.

Sincerely

Harold Weisberg

